



Environmental Sustainability in Costa Rica

What I Did

Studied abroad in Costa Rica during Maymester – For two weeks our class had traditional on-campus lecture about Costa Rica's tropical climate, geological history, and government policies to preserve its unique environment. We learned what made Costa Rica stand out among other countries in their efforts at reducing pollution and preserving natural habitats in preparation for our trip. After two weeks, we spent ten days in-country travelling to various national parks to witness for ourselves how Costa Rica values their natural resources and how it has become a part of their culture.



Why I Went

- Low trip cost
- Exotic location
- Course material relevant to my major and personal interests
- Trip duration
- Opportunity to use Spanish in-country



The Impact

- Improved language skills
- Desire to further develop Spanish skills
- Introduction to new and creative sustainability practices
- Experience with Costa Rican culture
- Broadened perspective of international sustainability efforts
- Getting to experience an exotic tropical climate
- Application of ecology concepts to flora and fauna



Highlights

- Searching for tree frogs at night
- Seeing wild monkeys around the hotels
- The amazing coffee in Monteverde
- Hiking along the Rio Celeste
- The beach at Manuel Antonio National Park
- Getting caught in a storm while kayaking on Lake Arenal
- Ziplining through the rainforest canopy
- Seeing a wild three-toed sloth
- Waking up to howler monkeys
- White water rafting
- Enjoying Baldi Hot Springs resort

